

SECRET1-BIS Registry
CVM

3 December 1981

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Reports
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Room 6E45 Hqs.

For the report to the DDCI.

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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICEFSN Wage System

For the past two years FBIS, at the direction of the Office of Personnel, has allowed the Department of State to conduct position classification surveys of its foreign national overseas jobs. The result has caused extensive problems. FBIS recently recommended to Office of Personnel that FBIS no longer be required to subject its positions to State Department surveys. Recently the Department surveyed FBIS positions at London and Nicosia using State Department rather than FBIS or Agency position standards, with the result that 54 of 71 positions in London were ordered downgraded, and 14 of 27 in Nicosia. FBIS is working with the Director of Personnel in attempting to establish a position classification system that is adaptable to the FBIS overseas missions.




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Support to NSA Analysis

The FBIS index of translated public documents--the Consolidated Translation Survey (CTS)--provided analytical support to NSA recently. NSA analysts, studying the subject of satellites and their use in recording heat or radio emissions from the ocean, identified a Russian, Boris A. Nelepo, as a significant open-source author in this field. Through the FBIS CTS system, we were able to locate 1,370 pages of currently available material by Nelepo for NSA. 

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(Through its CTS, FBIS maintains a worldwide watch on foreign literature translations of possible value to the Intelligence Community. In addition to translations produced by FBIS' Joint Publication Research Service (JPRS), announcements of available translations published by the European Space Agency, the International Translation Centre in Holland, the Royal Air Force, the Israeli Program for Scientific Translations, and the Australian Central Information Library represent a sample of 10 foreign sources regularly received. Within the U.S. Government, the announcements of translated works by many agencies outside the Community are reviewed for material of intelligence value. Translations prepared by the Department of Agriculture, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and NASA are examples of 14 U.S. Government components currently contributing information to the FBIS/CTS record. The net effect of the FBIS/CTS operation is to coordinate the production of some 30,000 pages of Intelligence Community translation each month and to eliminate duplication of over a million dollars in unnecessary translation expenses each year.) 

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Assistance to DOD

On 30 November, FLASC--the FBIS translation unit located adjacent to the CIA Library--assisted DOD by providing Cartography Division/OCO within an hour translations of Soviet maps and charts on comparative NATO and USSR intermediate-range missile strength in the European theater. The maps and charts will be used by Secretary Weinberger in his forthcoming visit to Europe to brief U.S. NATO allies. ☐

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NATO Meeting Support

FBIS language officers provided support to the U.S. delegation to the NATO/Special Consultative Group meeting in Brussels. Prior to the delegation's departure for Europe, German-language translations were prepared at the request of NFAC's Arms Control Intelligence Staff. ☐

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Key West Housing

A new U.S. Forces Caribbean Command, which will include the Caribbean Contingency Force, the Antilles Command, and other Navy and Marine units, has been established at Key West. The FBIS bureau chief at Key West notes that this will make even more difficult the ability of FBIS staffers to find housing on the open market in Key West. FBIS has never owned its own housing at that post but we are looking into possible options to help ease the housing problem. ☐

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Senator Stevens' Letters

FBIS recently received, through several channels, letters from Senator Ted Stevens, Senate Assistant Majority Leader, suggesting Alaska as a site for the monitoring of Soviet civil broadcasts. FBIS has replied to Senator Stevens that monitoring from Alaska would not add to the capability we now have to monitor Soviet stations from locations in the Far East and Europe. It was pointed out to the Senator, however, that should the political situation in countries where FBIS operates change, Alaska is one area that could be surveyed for some monitoring of Soviet broadcasts that is now being done elsewhere. ☐

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Narcotics Information

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Senate Committee

FBIS' JPRS (Joint Publications Research Service) provided translation support recently for Phil Christenson of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Staff in the form of several items translated from Afrikaans.



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Swaziland Bureau

FBIS officers on TDY have taken further steps toward the opening of the new FBIS bureau in Mbabane, Swaziland. The search is continuing for suitable sites for the operations building and residential housing. The bureau chief, his deputy and a staff engineer will be arriving PCS the first of the year. A recent radio reception survey was conducted by operations personnel to confirm previous surveys in the area and identify the best reception sites. Projected coverage includes the following countries: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Languages covered will be English, French, Portuguese, and Afrikaans.



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INF Talks

FBIS has accepted a new standing requirement from the U.S. delegation at the INF talks in Geneva for Soviet speeches, official statements, and reportage on the INF talks, as well as West European officials' remarks and media reaction to initiatives, positions and developments on the intermediate-range nuclear forces issues.



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Service to Secretary Haig

At the request of the State Operations Center, FBIS sent Secretary Haig's party in Mexico the text of Mr. Brezhnev's speech of 23 November at a dinner given in Bonn. FBIS monitored the speech from TASS.



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